unemployment are obtained through National Sample Surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation from time to time. As per these surveys, estimated employment in Manufacturing, Mining and Agricultural sectors during 1993-94 and 1999-2000 was of the order of 28.72 crore and 28.83 crore respectively indicating a marginal increase. Due to globalization and economic liberalization some employment opportunities in the older types of industries might have been reduced but at the same time, new employment opportunities are created in a number of new areas. On the whole, employment opportunities have registered an increasing trend during 1994-2000.

Making social security requirements a fundamental right

984. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Second National Commission on Labour has recommended that social security requirements of the workers be made a fundamental right under the constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons addressed by the Commission in favour of the proposal; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The Second National Commission on labour has accepted the need to consider social security as a fundamental human right. The Commission has recommended a system in which the State bears the responsibility for providing and ensuring an elementary or basic level of security, and leaves room for partly or wholly contributory schemes.

(c) Due to huge coverage gap in social security especially in the unorganized sector and lack of resources, state funding of social security even on a very minimum scale in not possible. The State can only play the role of a facilitator. It is for the employer and the employee to contribute towards building a social security net that could be universal in application.